

ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES
—OF THE—
29TH ANNUAL SESSION
—OF THE—
CAHABA VALLEY
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

—HELD WITH—
Beulah Church, on September 12th, 13th, and 14th, 1896.

HERALD PRINT, ATTALA ALA.



CAHABA VALLEY ASSOCIATION.

MINUTES.

The Twenty-Ninth Annual Session of the Cahaba Valley Baptist Association met with Beulah Church at 10 o'clock a. m., Saturday, September 12th, 1896. The body was ca'led to order by the former Moderator, Rev. J. S. E. Robinson. Prayer by Rev. W. P. Lovell.

Letters from the churches were called for and read by E. B. Moore, J. M. Adkins and J. W. Lawley. It was found that the following churches were represented by the following named brethren :

Ashville—J. A. Glenn, J. S. E. Robinson, E. B. Moore, J. R. Neeley.
Bethany—J. S. Smith, J. H. Machen.
Beulah—J. R. Dyke, R. J. Byers, J. W. Jarrett, R. H. Jarrett.
Bethel—J. M. Adkins, L. V. B. Hawkins, T. D. Courson.
Cedar Grove—H. Stone, W. E. Elkins.
Cook Springs—J. R. Caracker, J. H. Reaves, L. Cook, W. P. Lovell.
Coolsprings—Robert Vinyard.
Cane Creek—P. V. Bowman, J. A. Moore.
Eden—J. M. Franklin, G. M. McCombs, S. Y. Taylor.
Friendship—J. C. Bice, R. R. Peace, J. F. Glidewell, J. B. Homes.
Gumsprings—J. F. Franklin, A. P. McBrayer.
Gre nsport—J. E. Black, J. W. Watson!
Hopewell—G. W. Lovell, J. A. Thompson, Wm. Dorsett, R. Lindsey.
Mt. Pisgah—C. J. Pike, J. R. Davis, J. L. Lowe, J. D. Ragland, Jack
Drummonds, L. N. Gross.
Mt. Pleasant—
Mt. Castle—H. A. Arnold, F. M. Higginbotham.
New Hope (St. Clair)—W. C. Beavers, W. C. Bolton, I. R. W. Lewis,
E. M. Truett, N. N. Butterworth, J. T. Inzer.
New Prospect—Jas. Barber, J. D. Morgan, P. W. Michell, F. M. Milom.
New Lebanon—G. W. Burress, W. M. Simmons, J. Allison.
Providence—not represented.
Pleasant Grove (Shelby)—W. P. Brazier, D. A. Whitfield, A. G. Bra-
zier.
Pine Forest—S. B. Crow, L. Lee, Thos. Roe.
Pleasant Site—W. F. Wilder, J. M. Cook, W. S. Gardner, J. L. Barker.
Rock Springs—J. C. McGill, L. A. Allison.
Reaves' Grove—J. W. Alman, E. Sheffield, J. C. Sheffield.
Sulphur Springs—J. C. Harris, S. M. White, J. T. Sims, W. C. Fulmer.
Shiloh—James Cowan, W. A. Watson, Elias Patterson.
Sand Ridge—W. F. Isabell, R. Isabell, C. S. Isabell.
Trinity—J. W. Richy, J. S. Dyke.
Union Springs—J. W. Lawley, W. T. Churchwell, W. Y. Adkins, W.
H. Woodell.
Union—C. A. Glidewell, Wm. Lepard.

After reading letters, the introductory sermon was preached by Rev. J. C. Harris from John 2:10. Upon motion an adjournment was taken one hour for dinner.

Re-assembled at 2 p. m. Prayer by E. B. Moore. Upon motion the body proceeded to the election of officers, which resulted in the election of J. S. E. Robinson, Moderator, G. W. Lovell, Clerk, J. M. Adkins, Treasurer. Upon motion, a committee of three was appointed on order of business, consisting of N. A. Hood, J. A. Thompson and S. B. Crow. Then order of business was taken up. Called for petitionary letters receiving and returning correspondents. Received A. L. Pinkscales, W. J. Ray, W. M. Hall, D. F. Funderburg, J. R. Steeley from the Coosa River Association; G. W. Carter, from Shelby Association. Received W. C. Bledsoe in his official capacity as a representative of missions.

Returned correspondence: Birmingham Association, J. C. Harris, J. W. Lawley, W. P. Lovell, J. S. E. Robinson, J. M. Adkins, W. T. Churchwell. Etowah Association, J. A. Thompson, G. W. Lovell, Wm. Dorsett. Calhoun Association, N. A. Hood, J. A. Glenn, A. G. Nunnelly. Coosa River Association, J. S. E. Robinson, J. R. Davis, Lafayette Cooke, W. I. Brazier, J. R. Dyke, J. W. Lawley, J. D. Morgan, J. D. Smith, J. H. Reel. Warrior River Association, J. W. Lawley. Shelby Association, W. I. Brazier, J. S. Falkner, J. R. Dyke, J. L. Parker.

State Convention: N. A. Hood, J. A. Embry, J. A. Glenn, J. M. Lawley, J. C. Harris, G. W. Lovell, J. M. Adkins, W. I. Brazier.

By motion a committee was appointed on Devotion, consisting of J. A. Thompson, J. R. Neely, with Pastor A. J. Ray and the deacons of Beulah church.

Upon motion a committee was appointed on Finance, consisting of E. B. Moore, Thos. Neely, W. E. Elkins.

Received report of committee on Devotion, by which it was arranged for G. W. Lovell to preach here and J. W. Lawley to preach at Vanderver at 7 o'clock p. m. Received report on Hospitality, and Delegates were assigned to their homes. Adjourned till 9 a. m. Sunday.

SUNDAY.

Met at 9 a. m. Sunday. Spent half hour in devotional service. Called for report on Sabbath Schools, which was presented and read by J. C. Sheffield:

REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

It may be noticed from the letters from the churches to the association, that only a small percentage of the churches composing this association maintain regular Sunday School. This is not as it should be. Every church should by all means maintain a regular Sunday School. The churches have opportunities to train and indoctrinate the young people in the Sunday School, which they cannot afford to let pass unimproved. It is a de-

plorable fact that the older members of the church take but little interest in this work. As a rule, the young Christians readily become interested, and with the proper encouragement and interest by the older members, flourishing Sunday Schools could be maintained in all the churches. Young christians naturally look upon their elders as leaders in church work. Then let them arise to the responsibility that rests upon them and the opportunity that they have for doing service in the Master's name. No church can hope to prosper to that degree in this age that is to be desired without sustaining well regulated Sabbath School. Some of our churches seem to be satisfied with Sabbath Schools through the summer months. This is wrong, for we know and it has been demonstrated by some of our churches that Sabbath Schools can be kept alive permanently. We recommend to the pastors of our churches to see that Sabbath Schools are organized in every church of the Cahaba Valley Association, and they use the Southern Baptist Convention series of lesson papers.

Respectfully submitted,

J. C. SHEFFIELD.

Said report was discussed by Brethren J. C. Sheffield, W. C. Bledsoe, E. B. Moore, J. H. R. Carden, J. D. Smith, J. M. Adkins, D. F. Funderburg, A. R. Hardy and J. S. E. Robinson. Report adopted.

Eleven o'clock having arrived, adjourned to hear the Missionary sermon, which was preached by J. S. E. Robinson, from Matthew, 24th chapter, 13th verse. After sermon a collection was taken amounting to \$9 50. Adjourned till 2 p. m.

At 2 p. m. the body was called to order by the Moderator and was led in prayer by J. M. Barber. The Moderator then called for reports on State, Home and Foreign Missions.

The report on State Missions was read by J. C. Harris.

REPORT ON STATE MISSIONS.

We are under many strong obligations to sustain our State Mission work. It is specially our own, and touches the most vital interest of our Lord's Kingdom in Alabama, as well as reaches out in its influence to all the world. The prosperity of our State work means the success of all our enterprises; for it is the basis upon which all of them is founded. Increase interest in state missions and you will increase interest in Foreign Missions, as well as give stimulus to our educational work. Your committee is glad to be able to report that this cause is brightening. The best of results are being accomplished in missionary, colportage and institute work.

Brethren, the State Board should receive our sympathy, our prayers and our help. Its chief work is done in the destitution of our own state, for the salvation and the uplifting of our own people.

May our Blessed Lord give us greater consecration that we may spend and be spent for Him who loved us and gave Himself for us.

Respectfully submitted,

J. C. HARRIS.

Report on Home Missions was read by N. A. Hood.

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS.

Your committee on Home Missions submit the following report:

That the Mission interest of our denomination is divided and represented by three Boards viz; State, Home, and Foreign, and while each of these interests are of vast importance to the denomination, none are of

more importance than the Home Mission interest. Its field is the entire south, and the island of Cuba. Through this board we carry the Gospel to the Red Men of the West, and many destitute sections among the White in the United States and Territories, also to some of our large cities.

During the convention year ending June, 1896, there were employed by the Board 425 missionaries, an increase of 44 over the proceeding year, and as a result of their labors 5921 were baptized, 6,519 were received by letter, making a total 10,564 added during the convention year. 2,110 Sabbath Schools were organized, 178 churches were constituted, and 52 houses of worship were erected, and to enable the Board to pursue its work. The contribution to the Home board for the year was \$76,523. Of this amount Alabama Baptists contributed \$52,182. And it is reasonable to be supposed that Alabama will be requested to pay as much the present year. And the Cahaba Valley Association should remember that there are certain obligations resting upon us, constituting a part of the Baptists of Alabama; so brethren let us of this Association rise up and help the denomination carry on this great work, by contributing liberally of our means as the Lord has prospered us.

Respectfully submitted

W. P. LOVELL.

Called for a report on Foreign Missions. There being no report last year's report was read and, with some amendments, substituted:

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

We the committee on Foreign Missions beg leave to submit the following:

In the year 1845 nearly 51 years ago, the Southern Baptist Convention was organized at Augusta, Ga. Then and there the spirit of the Master being with them our foreign mission board was organized. Since that time we have sent out 310 missionaries and contributed to the work \$1,914,500. We now have missionaries in China, Africa, Italy, Brazil, Mexico, and Japan.

Brother, let us pause for a moment amidst the conflicts of life and indulge ourselves in a short retrospective. How many of us have ever realized the great blessings our Master gave us when he left us a wide field of work to be accomplished in his name, and realize the blessings have been grateful enough to fall on our blessed knees and with soul overflowing with love and gratitude thank our all-wise and Beloved Ruler that "there's work for you and work for me."

The time has come when we more than ever need to realize that this is God's work, that he is the author of it, that he gave it to us, and that working WITH Him and FOR Him we CAN NOT fail. Great difficulties are before us and sometimes the way may seem dark and gloomy, sometimes we may almost despair, but let us remember that the darkest hour is just before the dawning and trusting Our Savior we will surely have our eyes opened to a beautiful and clear morning. He is ever with us a bright and blissful comfort in our soul's darkest hours.

The pastor MUST be thoroughly missionary to influence churches for missionaries and in so influencing them bring their souls into a closer and more worshipful communion with God. If they are indifferent or afraid, little may be accomplished, while, on the other hand should they be earnest and zealous workers, much and lasting good may be done. Such pastors need three things: 1, Convictions of God's truth; 2, courage to speak the truth; 3, Consecration to earnestly, lovingly, patiently press the truth until he "brings things to pass"—and unless he does bring things to pass it is a self-evident that he has not these necessary qualifications. One of the chief troubles today is that too many of our preachers fail to weave foreign missions into their sermons, giving little or no information in regard to the work. The contribution of last year were \$130,000. Of all the funds received at Richmond, 9% per cent on the dollar went to missionaries, only 8 cents on the dollar being used for all expenses here. Let us work and pray for the salvation of the poor benighted souls beyond the seas.

Respectfully submitted.

R. M. ALVERSON, Chairman.

Said reports were jointly discussed by Brethren W. C. Bledsoe and J. W. Lawley. Upon motion the Association bowed in prayer to God for the cause of Missions and was led by J. W. Lawley, who offered an earnest and fervent prayer for the missionaries in foreign fields and in our midst. Then continued the discussion of Missions by Brethren N. A. Hood, G. W. Lovell, J. W. Lawley, and J. C. Harris. Reports adopted. Upon motion the funds collected for

missions were turned over to W. C. Bledsoe, Secretary of the State Mission Board.

A committee was then appointed on arrangement for the time and place of holding the next session, consisting of J. M. Adkins, J. M. Barber and J. R. Neely. Adjourned to 9 a. m. Monday.

MONDAY.

Association called to order at 9 a. m. After reading the 122d Psalm by the Moderator, prayer was offered by S. B. Crow. A motion was carried to suspend calling the roll. A motion to suspend the regular order of business to hear an address by A. R. Hardy. Then a collection was taken to satisfy the claim of our deceased brother, R. W. Inzer, who labored in our bounds as a missionary. Money sufficient to satisfy the claim was raised.

A report on Education was then read by E. B. Moore.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

We, your Committee on Education, beg leave to submit the following: There has been great advancement educationally within the last few years. Our people are interested in the work of educating their children more than ever before. There are more young men and young women today struggling for an education in spite of almost insurmountable obstacles than ever before. These indications of progress are indeed encouraging, yet, notwithstanding these facts, there remains much to be done. The work of advancement has only begun. Many of our people have never yet been touched by this wave of progress. Many of them are bringing their children up in ignorance and vice, knowing nothing of and caring nothing for the great responsibilities that rests upon them, forgetting that God has made them the guardians of immortal beings, that he has intrusted to them the work of developing the powers of their immortal minds, and of preparing them to do service in His cause. In some communities the lack of interest is lamentable. The schools are short and poorly attended. The houses are not comfortable, although there is healthy improvement on this line.

The people are too easily satisfied with the teachers. No child should be committed to the care of a teacher who is not qualified mentally and morally for the work.

Let us work and pray that the times may soon come when our people will arise from their indifference to the great duty of educating their children. Let Baptists rally to the support of our denominational schools, the Howard and the Judson. They are ours. Let us foster them. But above all, let us build up the educational interests, until every community shall have a good school within its own borders. An enlightened Christian citizenship is the hope of our country. It is this that will honor God and bless mankind.

Respectfully submitted

E. B. MOORE, Chairman.

Adopted.

Called for a report on Ministerial Education, which was read by E. B. Moore:

REPORT ON MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

We, your committee on Ministerial Education, ask leave to submit the following report: In the opinion of your committee, the interest in ministerial education in Cahaba Valley Association is not as active as it should be. This inactivity is attributable to various causes.

1. Probably the most fruitful source of inactivity is a lack of knowledge as to the necessity for ministerial education. The idea is prevalent that in districts where the people are illiterate, it is not necessary for the preacher to know much. There was never a greater mistake or one fraught with more danger to our Baptist cause. If the people are ignorant, so much greater is the necessity for teachers with thoroughly disciplined minds to lead them into the great doctrine of the Christian religion. An ignorant teacher teaching an ignorant people is "the blind leading the blind." The lack of firmness and stability in Baptist doctrine in so many communities is due in great measure to this cause.

2. Another cause of indifference in this line, especially in country churches, is the idea that the effect of educating a preacher is to raise him above the common people, that when they have helped him to educate himself, he forgets them and goes to fields of labor in which there is more money. While there is a semblance of truth in this idea, this in no degree justifies a neglect of Christian duty. Sometimes it is the case that aid is bestowed on an unworthy object, still the duty remains. Again, admitting the sad fact that few of our educated preachers are preaching in the hills and the hollows of the rural districts, who will undertake to say that God has not blessed the efforts that have been made by the churches to educate young ministers? Who will undertake to say that the cause of Christ has not been advanced and Christians established in the faith of the Gospel as a result of their work? Brethren, the demand today is for preachers full of the Holy Ghost, armed with the mental powers and irresistible logic of a Paul, to meet and overthrow the sophistry of those who would rejoice in the downfall of Baptist principles! The demand is upon the churches. How are we meeting it?

The church which sets apart to the work of the ministry a young man filled with a burning desire to do something in the Master's cause, and who is crippled by an illiterate and untrained mind, is not, in the highest sense faithful to her duty unless she help him to educate himself. We recommend and urge that the churches of this association co-operate with the State Board of Ministerial Education in helping the young ministers at Howard College and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary at Louisville. When the churches become fully alive to their duty, the time will soon come when God will bless their efforts by giving them men of power and grace to lead them. "They who sow shall reap if they faint not."

May God speed the day when every church shall have men filled with power and the Holy Ghost to lead them. Respectfully submitted,

E. B. MOORE, Chairman,

After discussion by brethren E. B. Moore, N. A. Hood, G. W. Lovell, A. R. Hardy, J. C. Harris, and J. W. Lawley report was adopted.

Report of the executive committee was read and adopted:

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Your committee recommend that for the next associational year this body raise for missions, ministerial, educational and other purposes connected with our work the sum of three hundred dollars, and your committee makes the following apportionment of same to the churches within our bounds, to wit:

Ashville	\$50.00	Harmony, St. Clair co.	\$ 3.00	Pleasant Grove, St. Clair.	3.00
Bethany	5.00	Hebron, Jefferson co.	5.00	Providence, St. Clair co.	5.00
Bethel	10.00	Hopewell, St. Clair co.	15.00	Rock Springs,	5.00
Beulah	15.00	Mount Castle,	" 3.00	Reese's Grove	10.00
Cedar Grove	6.00	Mount Pleasant,	" 10.00	Sand Ridge,	2.00
Cane Creek	3.00	Mount Pisgah,	" 15.00	Shiloh,	3.00
Coal City	10.00	New Hope,	" 40.00	Sulphur Springs, Jefferson	5.00
Cook Springs	10.00	New Lebanon	" 5.00	Trinity, Shelby county,	3.00
Cool Spring	10.00	New Prospect	" 10.00	Union, St. Clair county,	2.00
Eden, Jefferson co.	5.00	Pine Forest	" 5.00	Union Springs,	5.00
Friendship, St. Clair co.	10.00	Pleasant Grove, Shelby co.	5.00	New Prospect, Jefferson co.	3.00
Greensport	5.00	Pleasant Site, Shelby co.	3.00		
Gum Springs	20.00	New Hope, Jefferson co.	4.00		

Very respectfully submitted,

JOHN W. INZER;

N. A. HOOD,

JAMES A. EMBRY,

G. W. DAUGHRILL,

Committee.

Called for a report on Temperance which was read by N. A. Hood and adopted:

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

No subject before the Cahaba Valley Association is of greater importance to the people

who compose it than that of temperance. The immoderate use of intoxicating liquors in this glorious country of ours is more hurtful to our people than wars, pestilence or famine. More than one hundred thousand premature graves is the annual result of strong drink. It is filling our jails, almshouses, penitentiaries and asylums with thousands of our people. Seven-tenths of the criminal cases on the civil dockets of our courts are due to crimes committed as a result of the use of intoxicating liquors. Ten thousand homes are annually robbed of their peace, millions of hearts are made to bleed, because of the demon drink. In our opinion it is unchristian for professors of religion to make, sell, or give away, or entice his fellowman to partake of the accursed stuff, and in our opinion it is hurtful to christian influence, to christian character and to growth in christian life to use even in moderation intoxicating drinks as a beverage. As a great denominational, in order to instill this principle of temperance into the minds of our people, we should sustain the principle of prohibition and should lend our aid in extending proper prohibitory laws. In our opinion the present prohibition law on our state books for St. Clair county has been of great benefit to the morals and religious progress of our people, and we recommend to all Baptists to sustain said law and ask for the co-operation of all christians to aid in suppressing the sale of liquors in our bounds.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. ALMAN.

As a denomination believing in temperance in all things and believing that the license laws of Alabama are discriminating in their efforts, and derogatory to the best interest of a christian community, and

Whereas, the General Assembly of Alabama at its session in 1894 and 1895 passed a law prohibiting the sale, giving away or otherwise disposing of wines, spirituous or malt liquors or intoxicating drinks of any kind in St. Clair county, and,

Whereas, said law is now upon the Statute Books, and in force in said county, and believing that it has been beneficial to the moral and religious interests of St. Clair county,

Therefore be it Resolved by the Cahaba Valley Baptist Association, that the Hon. J. S. E. Robinson, Senator and the Hon. John Yarborough representative of St. Clair county be and they are hereby petitioned by this association in behalf of, and in the name of twenty-four hundred Baptists to allow said law to remain on the Statute Books, and that each of them are requested to vote against any effort that may be made to repeal said law.

Resolved, 2nd. That a copy of these Resolutions be furnished to Hon. J. S. E. Robinson, Senator; and a copy be furnished Hon. John Yarborough, representative, of St. Clair, Co.

Report on Documents was read by J. W. Lawley and adopted:

REPORT ON DOCUMENTS.

We, your committee on documents, report the following: 1. That we as a denomination, should use our means in carrying out the plans as fostered by the Southern Baptist Convention. 2. By subscribing for the Alabama Baptist, Home, Field & Farm, Mission Journal; also use the literature of our denomination and quit this Union literature and teach what we believe to be sound doctrine, and we believe there will be less trouble among ourselves

J. W. LAWLEY.

Heard report on nominations.

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS.

We, your committee on nominations, after considering the matters submitted to us, nominate Ashville church as the place of next meeting, to commence on Saturday before the second Sunday in September, 10 o'clock a. m. N. A. Hood to preach the Introductory sermon, W. P. Lovell, alternate C. J. Pike to preach the Missionary Sermon, J. W. Lawley alternate, J. S. E. Robinson to the Southern Baptist convention. Respectfully submitted,

Adopted.

Called for report on Finance, which was read by E. B. Moore and adopted:

Minute Fund—Ashville \$2.50, Bethany .50, Bethel \$1.10, Beulah \$1.50, Cedar Grove .80, Cane Creek .75, Coal City .75, Cook Springs \$1.00; Cool Springs \$1.00, Eden (Jefferson) .30, Friendship \$1.80, Greensport .50, Gum Springs \$1.25, Hopewell .75, Mt. Castle .50, Mt. Pisgah \$2.00, Mt Pleasant \$1.20, New Lebanon .45, New Prospect .50, Pine Forest \$1.00, Pleasant Grove (Shelby) \$1.00; Pleasant Site \$1.25, Rock Springs .40, Reeves Grove \$1.00, Sand Ridge .60, Shiloh .50, Sulphur Springs \$1.00, Trinity \$1.00, Union .56, Union Springs \$1.00. Total \$29.86.

State Missions—Ashville \$10.00 (voucher), Bethany .50, Total \$10.50

Home Missions—Cool Springs .65, Hopewell \$2.20, Mt Pleasant \$1.41. Total \$4.26, Foreign Missions—Ashville \$11.00, Greensport \$3.80, Reeves Grove \$3.50, Sulphur Springs .95, Total \$19.55.

Ministerial Education—Ashville \$10.00. Total \$10.00.

Orphan's Home—Ashville \$5.00, Bethany L. A. S., Bethel \$3.00, Sulphur Springs \$1.10, Total \$9.10.

Missions received from public collection \$14.75. Respectfully Submitted.

E. B. MOORE, Chairman.

Upon motion the work at Kagland was referred to the Executive Committee for investigation. Upon motion the treasurer was ordered to turn the minute fund over to the clerk that the clerk have \$8. for his services and that he have the minutes printed with the remainder.

Resolved, That the present Executive committee be retained and that they be requested to report to the various churches the several amounts assigned to be raised during this Associational year, and that said amounts be printed in the minutes.

Whereas, Bro. W. C. Bledsoe, Secretary of State Mission Board, has come and set forth the work of the mission board and has shown us our duty in supporting these boards; and, whereas, the famous boards have asked us for \$350 for their work,

Be it resolved, That we extend our hearty sympathy to Bro. Bledsoe and the other secretaries in their work.

Resolved, further, That we will make an earnest effort to raise the amount asked of us. E. B. MOORE.

A resolution was presented and sustained with reference to our deceased brother Levi Perry:

Whereas, It has pleased our Heaven'y Father to remove from our midst, our beloved brother, Elder Levi Perry, whose death took place July 5, 1896. Bro. Perry preached the Gospel of Jesus for a number of years in this Association. He was 72 years old, and leaves a wife and a number of children to mourn their loss; but their loss is his eternal gain.

Resolved, 1st, That in the death of our dear brother the denomination has lost a faithful minister and the Church of Jesus Christ a steadfast member.

Resolved, 2d, That this Association mourn the loss and deeply sympathize with the bereaved family.

Resolved, 3d, That these resolutions be printed in our minutes, and a copy sent to the family. J. S. E. ROBINSON.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Association is hereby tendered to the Brethren and sisters of Bulah Church and citizens of surrounding community for their very generous kindness during our stay in theirmidst. J. W. LAWLEY.

After singing and prayer by J. C. Harris the Association then adjourned to meet with Ashville Church, Ashville, three miles south of Whitney, on the A. G. S. R. R., on Saturday before the second Sunday in September, 1897. J. S. E. ROBINSON,

G. W. LOVELL, CLERK. MODERATOR.

CONSTITUTION.

1. This Association shall be known by the name of THE CAHABA VALLEY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

2. It shall be composed of delegates from the different churches in connection with this body.

3. Petitionary churches may be admitted into this body at any regular session, if, upon due examination, they be found orderly and orthodox, and their reception shall be manifested by the Moderator's giving the messengers the right hand of fellowship.

4. Any church may withdraw from this body at her own discretion, on application for dismission.

5. This body shall usurp no authority over the churches in our union, nor infringe on any of their internal rights, but shall be considered only an advisory council relative to their internal affairs. It, however, may become necessary in some cases to have a uniform rule of proceedings, viz: If one church commits offense against another, it shall be the duty of the offended to labor with the offender for satisfaction. If she fail of success she shall call in the aid of two sister churches to assist in laboring for satisfaction; if satisfaction cannot be thus obtained, it shall be the duty of the aggrieved church to bring the case before the Association, to be decided upon according to its merits. And if a serious difficulty should arise in an individual church, which, upon due labor, she cannot reconcile, she may call in the aid of two or more churches to assist her in the work; then if the difficulty be not removed it may be the duty of the church to bring the case before the Association; but the Association will take cognizance of no case unless due course of procedure has been previously pursued.

6. The church in our union shall transmit to every annual session of this Association written communications, specifying the names of their messengers, and state of the church since the last session.

7. Every church in our union shall be entitled to representation in the following manner, viz: A church containing fifty or less members shall be entitled to three representatives and one additional representative or every twenty-five members over fifty. Any church failing to represent herself as above described shall state her reason for such failure at the next annual session.

8. The Association, when convened, shall be governed by a regular Rule of Decorum, which she is authorized to alter or amend at her discretion.

9. At every annual session of the Association a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer shall be chosen by ballot by and from the members present, and shall hold their offices until their successors are chosen. The Moderator shall preside over the deliberations of the body, preserve order and see that the Rules of Decorum are strictly observed. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a proper record of all transactions of the body. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all moneys from the hands of the Finance Committee and pay them out according to the order of the Association.

10. The Association shall have power to exclude from her union any church which shall violate the Constitution or depart from the orthodox principles of the Gospel or knowingly suffer any of her members to do so.

11. The Association shall furnish the churches with the Minutes of each session according to the funds sent up by each church.

12. Every query sent up by a particular church must be in her letter, certifying that she has endeavored to reconcile such difficulty, and has failed. In such case the Association shall take it under consideration, and the voice of a majority shall be considered an advisory answer, which shall be enrolled upon the minutes.

13. Queries that immediately concern the general union of churches, sent up by a particular church or introduced by a proper motion, shall be taken up and decided upon as soon as practicable.

14. There shall be an Association book provided, in which the Minutes of every annual session shall be recorded.

15. The Association shall not adjourn any annual session until she shall have finished all regular business on hand, except in extraordinary cases.

16. Minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected, and if necessary, signed by the Moderator and Clerk before final adjournment.

17. In all cases a majority of the members present of the Association shall rule under the Constitution.

18. Giving or withholding charity from any benevolent object shall not be considered a breach of fellowship by this Association.

19. Amendments to this Constitution may be made at any annual session when two-thirds of the members present think it necessary.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The Association shall be opened and closed by prayer.

2. The Moderator shall be deemed a judge of order, and shall have a right to call to order at any time. It shall be his duty also to see that the Rules of Decorum are strictly observed, to take the opinion of the Association on all questions properly brought before the body; and any member not satisfied with his decision on any point of order may appeal to the Association on the day of the decision, and at no other time.

3. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a record of the transactions of the Association.

4. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive and disburse all monies belonging to the Association according to its directions.

5. But one person shall speak at a time, and he shall rise to his feet and address the Moderator, using the appellation of "brother" in all discussions.

6. The Moderator, when addressed for leave of speech, shall signify the same by naming the brother, or otherwise.

7. No member shall be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject or use words of personal reflection, except it be to obtain order for a particular purpose.

8. Any motion made and seconded shall come under consideration, except withdrawn by him who made it.

9. The Moderator, after allowing time for debate, shall take the voice of the Association on questions that have been brought before it; and, if need be, by a rising vote.

10. When any question has been brought before the body, it must first be disposed of before any other question can be taken up.

11. No member shall depart during the service of the Association without leave.

12. The roll may be called as often as may be expedient.

13. No person shall be indulged in any practice that may cause interruption, or dishonor the Association.

14. The Moderator shall be allowed the privilege of debate, provided he appoint some other member to fill his seat while speaking; but shall not vote unless the Association be equally divided, and then he shall give the casting vote.

15. No member of this body shall be permitted to speak more than

twice on the same subject, unless to explain, without first obtaining leave from the Association.

16. Any member violating these rules shall be called to order by the Moderator, or removed at the discretion of the Association, but only on the day the breach is made.

STATISTICS OF CAHABA VALLEY ASSOCIATION. 1895.

CHURCH.	COUNTY.	PASTOR.	CLERK.	CLERK'S P.O.	Member reported by		Increase in Deer Se- ries by	Preach'd by Member of Presbyt.
					Less Repre- sentation	Repre- sentation		
Ashville	St. Clair	J. A. Glenn	E. B. Moore	Ashville	136	10	145	24
Bethany	"	N. A. Hood	H. W. McBrayer	Ottage Hill	42	4	41	43
Bethel	"	J. W. Lawley	J. F. Wyatt	Taylorburg	76	1	75	34
Cedar Grove	"	J. C. Harris	E. V. Moore	Leeds	14	5	1	1
Cool Springs	"	J. S. E. Robinson	L. D. Gilbreath	Caldwell	19	1	10	2
Cane Creek	"	W. P. Lovell	John Moore	Cook Springs	54	3	7	112 ^{1st}
Cook Springs	"	"	J. R. Correker	"	22	9	5	83
Eden	Jefferson	B. M. White	J. M. McConaughay	Partlow	2	1	3	1
Greensport	St. Clair	N. A. Hood	J. C. O'Donnell	Ashville	164	5	1	50 ^{1st}
Gum Springs	"	G. W. Lovell	Orvil Palmer	Hood	92	7	5	101 ^{3d}
Hopewell	"	"	O. A. Hood	"	30	9	17	5
Jefferson	St. Clair	W. P. Lovell	J. C. Rueland	Kelly's Creek	81	18	4	180 ^{2d}
Mt. Pisgah	"	"	J. A. Asasters	Wolf Creek	141	1	16	1
New Hope	"	B. F. Giles	J. R. W. Lewis	Eden	1	2	4	98
New Prospect	"	"	E. W. Chapman	Springville	1	1	3	134 ^{1st}
New Lebanon	"	"	P. T. Allison	Pine Forest	48	4	6	74
Pine Forest	"	J. S. E. Robinson	S. B. Crow	Vandiver	30	2	9	1
Pleasant Grove	Shelby	W. G. Brasher	J. L. Vandiver	"	1	1	1	44 ^{2d}
Pleasant Site	"	"	J. M. Cook	Sterrett	30	2	4	56 ^{1st}
Providence	St. Clair	"	"	"	55	2	33	22 ^{1st}
Pleasant Grove	"	"	"	"	13	1	2	146 ^{2d}
Rock Springs	"	J. J. Churchwell	J. C. McGill	Moody	2	1	1	33
Roxie Grove	"	N. A. Hood	J. C. Sheffield	Whitney	1	1	1	1
Sidlow	"	James Bowlin	T. J. Johnson	Pine Forest	2	1	2	1
Mt. Castle	"	"	T. J. Bradford	Cottage Hill	32	2	15	33 ^{3d}
Sulphur Spring	Jefferson	C. Harris	T. J. Anderson	Moody	78	1	10	1
Union	St. Clair	"	C. A. Glidewell	Beaver Valley	1	1	1	83 ^{3d}
Sand Ridge	"	J. W. Lawley	R. F. Coulson	Branchville	59	4	6	70 ^{1st}
Friendship	St. Clair	Shelby	W. J. Braher	Vandiver	2	5	1	1
Trinity	"	J. S. E. Robinson	J. M. Elmore	Beaver Valley	145	14	16	156 ^{4th}
Beniah	"	W. J. Brasher	J. L. Mize	"	29	1	1	27
	"	W. H. Falkner	W. H. Falkner	Sterrett	95	12	1	106 ^{4th}

Increase by voucher—Cook Springs 1.

Sunday School—Officers and Teachers: Cook Springs 7; Friendshtp 5. Pupils: Cook Springs 50, Mt. Pleasant 65, Pine Forest 50, Reeves Grove 50, Friendship 45, Beulah 40. Superintendent's Name and Address: E. B. Moore, Ashville; R. A. Correker, Cook Springs; L. J. Steed, Beaver Valley; Beulah—R. H. Jarrett, Sterrett.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Call for Petrionary letter.
2. Receiving and returning correspondence.
3. Appoint committies to report during present session.
4. Report of Standing Committees.
5. 9 a. m. Sunday, Report of Committee of Sabbath School.
6. 11 a. m. Missionary Sermon,
7. 2 p. m. All reports on missions be read and jointly.
8. Monday, 9 a. m. Report on Education read and discussed jointly.
9. 11 a. m. Report on Temperance.
10. 1:30 p. m. Religion and its wants.
11. 2 p. m. Documents, N. A. Hood, Chairman.

LIST OF ORDAINED MINISTERS.

N. A. Aood, J. A. Glen, S. J. Hare, J. S. E. Robinson, J. E. Stevenson, Ashville, Ala.
 A. P. Cobb, Hood, Ala.
 J. C. Harrir, Moody, Ala.
 J. W. Lawley, Branchville, Ala.
 M. F. Stone, J. C. Bice, John Perry, Beaver Valley, Ala.
 James Bowlen, Cottage Hill, Ala.
 Paul Castleberry, C. J. Pike, R. C. Chaney, Easonville, Ala.
 W. P. Lovell, Cook Springs Ala. *Eden Ala*
 W. G. McLaughlin Leed, Ala.
 S. Archer, Fairview, Ala.
 J. A. Owen, J. O. Layton, Ragland, Ala. *Cool City Ala*
 G. W. Lovell, Steeles Depot, Ala.
 W. J. Brasher, Vandiver, Ala.
 J. J. Churchwell, Argo, Ala.

STANDING COMMITTEES—REPORT AT NEXT SESSION.

STATE MISSIONS—N. A. Hood, J. M. Allman, H. W. McBrayer.
 HOME MISSIONS—Fayette Cook, W. P. Lovell, R. H. Carakn.
 FOREIGN MISSIONS—E. B. Moore, J. C. Sheffield, A. A. Hodges.
 TEMPERANCE—J. C. Harris, J. M. Adkins, J. K. Allison.
 GENERAL EDUCATION—C. J. Pike, J. D. Morgan, J. M. Barber.
 MINISTERIAL EDUCATION—J. A. Inzer, M. M. Smith, O. Hood.
 SABBATH SCHOOLS A: R. Wyatt, P. E. Wyatt, Pink W. Michel,
 F. M. Higginbotham.
 DOCUMENTS—J. A. Glenn, J. C. Bice, S. Bowlin, J. E. Senemon,
 A. P. Cobb.
 RELIGION AND ITS WANTS—J. W. Lawley, L. V. B. Hawkins,
 J. B. Holmes.

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